AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

- 1. (Cancelled)
- 2. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim [[1,]] 7, comprising pressing means for pressing the movable middle portion against the first and the second end ends of the neutral conductor.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 2 for opening and closing an electric circuit, the switching device comprising:

a neutral conductor having a first end and a second end; and
a frame through which the neutral conductor is configured to pass,
wherein the neutral conductor comprises a movable middle portion that is
arranged for breaking the neutral conductor inside the frame,

wherein the movable middle portion has a first end and a second end, is movable with respect to the first and second ends of the neutral conductor, and is located between the first and second ends of the neutral conductor,

wherein the switching device further comprises pressing means for pressing the movable middle portion against the first and second ends of the neutral conductor, wherein the pressing means comprise:

ene <u>a first</u> screw member per each <u>for the first</u> end of the movable middle portion[[,]]: <u>and</u>

a second screw member for the second end of the movable middle portion,

wherein each the first and second screw member members each comprising

comprise a threaded portion and a head portion, and the diameter and

wherein, for each one of the first and second screw members, a diameter of

the head portion being is larger than that a diameter of the threaded portion.

4. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 3, wherein the movable middle portion comprises a <u>first</u> slot at <u>its the</u> first end <u>of the middle</u> movable portion and <u>a second slot</u> at <u>its the</u> second end <u>of the middle movable</u> portion.

wherein each slot forming an forms a corresponding opening extending through the middle portion, and

wherein the threaded portions of the <u>first and second</u> screw members are arranged to pass through the movable middle portion via the <u>first and second</u> slots, <u>respectively</u>.

- 5. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 4, wherein ene an end of the <u>first</u> slot at the first end of the movable middle portion is open.
- 6. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 5, wherein the <u>second</u> slot at the second end of the movable middle portion is so long has a length that to enable the neutral conductor can to be broken by loosening the screw

members and by sliding the movable middle portion along the <u>respective surface</u> <u>surfaces</u> of the first and the second end <u>ends</u> of the neutral conductor towards the second end of the neutral conductor until the movable middle portion reaches a position where it <u>the movable middle portion</u> is not in a conductive contact with the first end of the neutral conductor.

7. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 1 for opening and closing an electric circuit, the switching device comprising:

a neutral conductor having a first end and a second end; and a frame through which the neutral conductor is configured to pass.

wherein the neutral conductor comprises a movable middle portion that is arranged for breaking the neutral conductor inside the frame.

wherein the movable middle portion has a first end and a second end, is movable with respect to the first and second ends of the neutral conductor, and is located between the first and second ends of the neutral conductor, and

wherein the movable middle portion comprises a portion which is in a substantially perpendicular plane with respect to the <u>a</u> plane in which the first and the second end of the movable middle portion are located.

- 8. (Cancelled)
- 9. (Cancelled)

Attorney Docket No. 1034456-000040 Application No. 10/585,353

Page 6

10. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 3, wherein the movable middle portion comprises a portion which is in a substantially perpendicular plane with respect to the <u>a</u> plane in which the first and the second end

- 11. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 4, wherein the movable middle portion comprises a portion which is in a substantially perpendicular plane with respect to the <u>a</u> plane in which the first and the second end of the movable middle portion are located.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 5, wherein the movable middle portion comprises a portion which is in a substantially perpendicular plane with respect to the <u>a</u> plane in which the first and the second end of the movable middle portion are located.
- 13. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 6, wherein the movable middle portion comprises a portion which is in a substantially perpendicular plane with respect to the <u>a</u> plane in which the first and the second end of the movable middle portion are located.
 - 14. (Cancelled)

of the movable middle portion are located.

15. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 3, wherein the switching device is a modular switching device, and

wherein the neutral conductor is located comprised in a control device module.

16. (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 4, wherein the switching device is a modular switching device device, and

wherein the neutral conductor is located comprised in a control device module.

(Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 5, wherein 17. the switching device is a modular switching device device, and

wherein the neutral conductor is located comprised in a control device module.

- (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 6, wherein 18. the switching device is a modular switching device device, and wherein the neutral conductor is located comprised in a control device module.
- (Currently Amended) A switching device according to claim 7, wherein 19. the switching device is a modular switching device device, and

wherein the neutral conductor is located comprised in a control device module.

20. (New) A switching device for opening and closing an electric circuit, the switching device comprising:

a neutral conductor having a first end and a second end; and
a frame through which the neutral conductor is configured to pass,
wherein the neutral conductor comprises a movable middle portion that is
arranged for breaking the neutral conductor inside the frame,

wherein the movable middle portion has a first end and a second end, is movable with respect to the first and the second ends of the neutral conductor, and is located between the first and second ends of the neutral conductor,

wherein the switching device further comprises a pressing mechanism configured to press the movable middle portion against the first and second ends of the neutral conductor, wherein the pressing mechanism comprises:

a first screw member for the first end of the movable middle portion; and a second screw member for the second end of the movable middle portion, wherein the first and second screw members each comprise a threaded portion and a head portion, and

wherein, for each one of the first and second screw members, a length of the head portion is larger than a diameter of the threaded portion.

21. (New) A switching device according to claim 20, wherein the corresponding head portions of the first and second screw members each have a circular cross-section, and

wherein each length of the corresponding head portion is a diameter of the circular cross-section, respectively.

22. (New) A switching device according to claim 7, comprising a pressing mechanism configured to press the movable middle portion against the first and second ends of the neutral conductor.